



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/753,449	01/09/2004	Soon-Sung Yoo	053785-5023-01	8549
9629	7590	12/06/2004	EXAMINER	
MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP 1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004			STEVENSON, ANDRE C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2812	

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Ak

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/753,449	YOO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Andre' C. Stevenson	2812

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2004.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 7 and 8 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 8 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 7 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/919,614.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.



LYNNE A. GURLEY

PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER

TC 2800, AU 2812

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/09/04.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Preliminary Amendment

This office action is in response to the pre-amendment filed 01/09/04. Currently, claims 7 and 8 are pending. Claims 1-6 have been canceled as per request in the pre-amendment filed 01/09/04.

Foreign Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in parent Application No. 10753449, filed on January 09, 2004.

Specification

The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

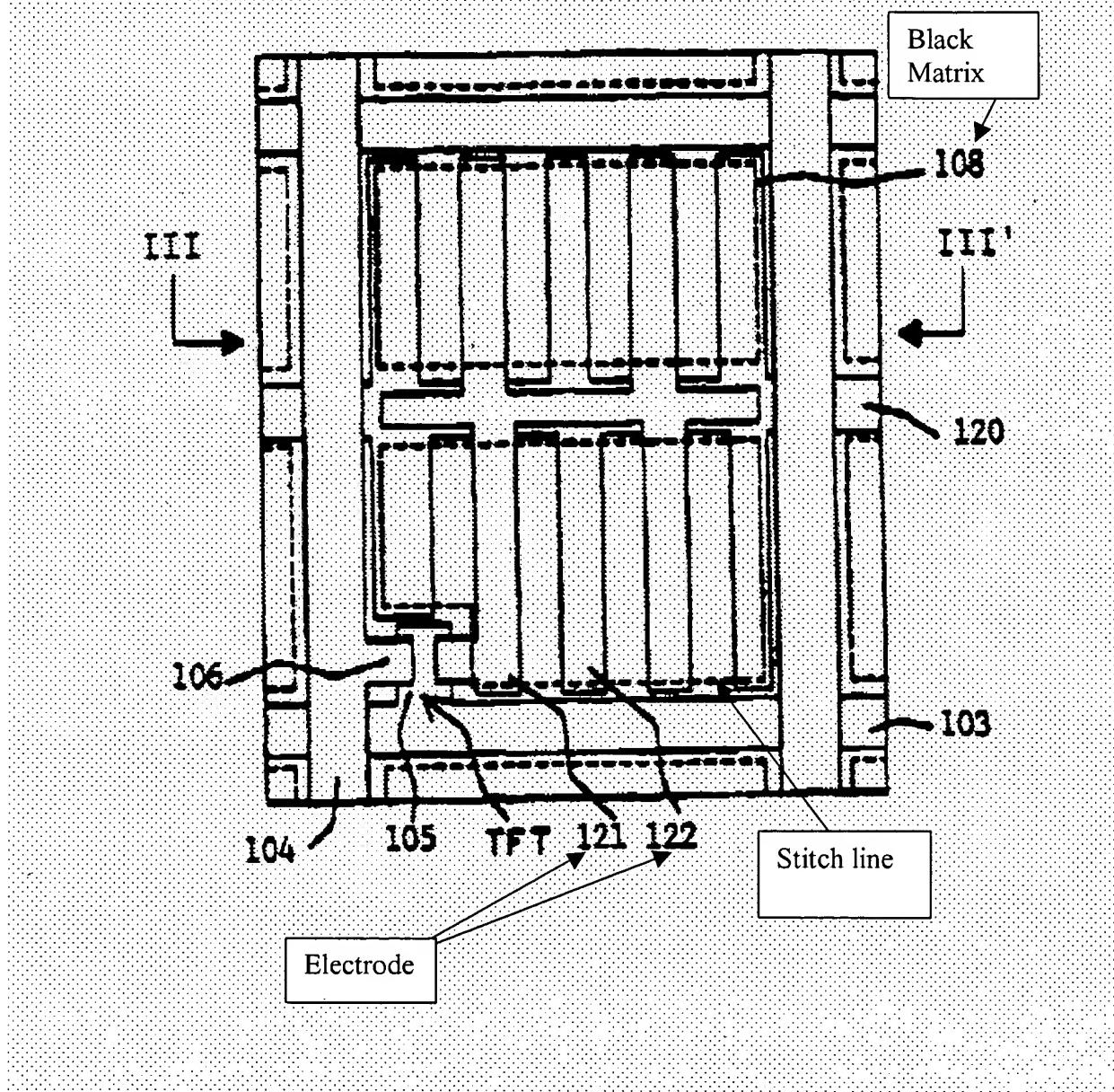
(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Oh et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,812,985 B1, Patent Date 11/02/04, Filing Date 03/28/00).

Oh shows **Claim 7**, as a liquid crystal display device comprising: first and second substrates facing into each other (Item 101&102, respectively column 4, line 52-53); a gate line (Abstract, column 5, line 6-7) on the first substrate; a gate insulating layer (item 111) on the first substrate including the gate line; an active layer (item 114a) on the gate insulating layer, a data line (item 104) over the active layer, a passivation layer (item 113) on the data line (Fig. 7, item 101, 104, 111, 114 and 122, column 4, line 7 through 22); a pixel electrode (item 121 & 122) on the gate insulating layer and having a stitch line therein (* See below for explanation of stitch line and pixel electrode); a black matrix (item 108) over the second substrate, wherein the stitch line in the pixel electrode substantially overlaps the black matrix in a vertical direction: (**Fig. 1, 2 and 5, column 2, line 64 through 67, column 3, line 1 through 9, column 1, line 32 through 46**).

* The examiner takes the position that Oh inherently shows the pixel electrode having the stitch line being present therein. The examiner notes that terminology used by the applicant and the prior art are different. While the prior art fails to explicitly label the "stitch area", it is nevertheless implicitly present. The drawing below, taken from Oh, clearly shows the "stitch area" exhibited by the conventional prior art. The stitch line is conventionally known to be present in this type of device. Also, the applicant has referred to a "pixel electrode" over the pixel area. It is believed by the examiner that the present common electrode (item 122) and data electrode (item 121) used in the prior art serve for the same functionality; to supply an electric field over the pixel area. Therefore figure #5 shows a pixel electrode on the gate insulating layer and having a stitch line therein.

FIG. 5



Allowable Claims

Claim #8 is allowable over the prior art of record, pending an updated search.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

While the prior art teaches a liquid crystal layer between the first and second substrates, wherein at least one stitch line is formed in the gate insulating layer, it fails to teach a step-and-repeat exposure for forming the second insulating layer.

Claim #8

- A step-and-repeat exposure for forming the second insulating layer.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866 – 217 – 9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andre C. Stevenson whose telephone number is (571) 272 1683. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Art Unit: 2812

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Niebling, can be reached on (571) 272 1679. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308 7724.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308 1782. Also, the proceeding numbers can be used to fax information through the Right Fax system;

- **703 872 9306**

Andre C. Stevenson Sr.

Art Unit 2812

11/10/04.



LYNNE A. GURLEY
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER
TC 2800, AU 2812